

*United States Department Of Agriculture
Agricultural Marketing Service
Poultry Programs, Market News Branch
60 Forsyth Street, SW, Suite 6M80
Atlanta, Georgia*

Office: 404-562-5850 **Fax:** 404-562-5875 **Johnny Freeman:** 404-562-5870
Internet: <http://www.ams.usda.gov/marketnews.htm> **Recording:** 404-562-5856

December 17, 1999

**Estimated U.S. Live Poultry Slaughter Under Federal Inspection
For Week Ending 18-Dec-99 (Thousand Head)**

	Current Week 12/18/99	Previous Week 12/11/99
Bro-Fry	156,830	152,367
Lt Hens	2,153	2,146
Hvy Hens	1,513	1,468

**U.S. Fowl Slaughtered In Canada
Weeks Ending 11-Dec-99 (Thousand Head)**

	Light Hens	Heavy Hens	Total
Head	488	0	488
Last Week	419	8	427
Same Wk Yr Ago	365	0	365
To Date 1999	22,316	264	22,580
To Date 1998	24,010	338	24,348

Source: Agriculture Canada, Poultry Development Division

Total U.S. Fowl Slaughtered In The U.S. And Canada

	Light Hens	Heavy Hens	Total
Head	2,655	1,425	4,080
Last Week	2,509	1,447	3,956
Same Wk Yr Ago	2,744	1,277	4,021
To Date 1999	123,202	69,435	192,637
To Date 1998	122,816	62,015	184,831

**Live Poultry Slaughtered Under Federal Inspection
Week Ending 11-Dec-99 (Thousand Head)**

	Young Chickens	Light Hens	Heavy Hens	Total Hens
Head	151,438 (A)	2,167	1,425	3,592
Avg Wt	5.01	3.41	7.93	5.20
Last Week	154,008	2,090	1,439	3,529
Same Week Yr Ago	148,532	2,379	1,277	3,656
Avg Wt	5.09	3.45	7.83	4.98
To-Date/1999	7,392,751	100,886	69,171	170,057
To-Date/1998	7,149,607	98,806	61,677	160,483

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 144.1 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period 153.3 million head or 9.2 million head more than or 106 percent of estimated fryers available.

**Young Chickens Slaughtered Under Federal Inspection,
Classified By Live Weight, Week Ending December 4, 1999**

	(A) Fast Food/Food Service 4.20 Lbs & Down	(B) Retail 4.21-5.25 Lbs	(C) Deboning 5.26 Lbs & Up
--	---	-----------------------------	-------------------------------

Head	36,769	32,291	42,819
Avg Weight	3.86	4.83	6.17
% Of Total /1	33%	29%	38%
Comparisons			
Last Week	26,456	25,637	33,432
Avg Weight	3.79	4.88	6.07
% Of Total /1	31%	30%	39%
Same Week, Yr Ago /2	27,051	21,101	32,849
Avg Weight	3.88	4.85	6.25
% Of Total /1	33%	26%	41%

To Date/1999	1,529,572	1,487,372	1,947,742
To Date/1998	1,609,708	1,701,820	1,442,356

/1 May Not Total To 100% Due To Rounding
/2 Comparable Week

(A) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the fast food and food service industries. May also include Cornish hens.

(B) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the retail industry.

(C) This weight class generally denotes chickens used in further processing. May also include heavy roasters sold in retail channels.

**Live Turkeys Slaughtered Week Ending 04-Dec-99
(Thousand Head)**

	Fryer- Roasters	Young Turkeys	Old Banded	Total
Head	0	5,287	75	5,362
Avg Wt	0.00	24.82	26.29	24.84
Head Sltr Comparisons				
Last Week	0	3,310	46	3,356
Same Week Yr Ago	0	3,971	27	3,998
Avg Wt	0.00	26.09 (B)	25.37	26.08
To-Date/1999	56	236,081 (B)	1,770	237,907
To-Date/1998	72	243,006 (B)	1,807	244,885

(B) Includes 731,000 young banded breeders in 1999 and 1,035,000 in 1998

Source: USDA/AMS Poultry Programs, Market News Branch.
For Additional Information, Please Call (404) 562-5850.